

# THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

Entered at the Postoffice at Marlinton, W. Va., as second class matter.

CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.  
THURSDAY, SEPT. 5, 1918

"I am a citizen of no mean city."  
—Paul of Tarsus.

The gentle editor of the White Sulphur Sentinel shows distinct annoyance concerning a custom that has grown with the denizens of the big hotel to speak of the Town of White Sulphur Springs as "The Village," and even more perniciously as the Little Village. We are with him. It is a wonder that he has endured the slur so long. We are irresistibly reminded of that old classic set to the tune of "Turkey in the Straw."

"Fireman, fireman, save my child!  
The mother cried in accents wild.  
Up the ladder the fireman ran,  
The child was bigger than the fireman."

The priceless lot of curiosities which gather at the great hotel, the grounds of which march with the town limits, have found it convenient to designate the larger collection of people by the diminutive. If they were nice in their ability to discriminate in the fine shades of meaning of names, they would know that it is an unpardonable solecism to call a person by any other name than the one that he has adopted, and the same holds true as to communities. Lately the offense has been greater on account of the tone of the paper published at the hotel called The Day Letter. Probably there is no disposition on the part of the strangers to cast any objectionable reflection upon the town people, for all persons of mature years and average understanding know that one person displaces about as much atmosphere as another.

The town has an official designation on the records of West Virginia as the town of White Sulphur Springs. Had they so voted and chosen the name could have been the Village of White Sulphur Springs, but that would have been a misnomer, for the size of the place gives it a right in law and equity to be considered a town. Polite people make it a point to ascertain the correct name and title and to use it. If they change it at all it is to elevate and enlarge the rank. Thus it is considerably more rude to speak of the town as a village than it would be to call it a city.

No doubt the custom started by reason of the fact that there are a great many northern visitors and in the north in many sections they do not have the word town in the sense that it is used here. They say either village or city, and use the word town to describe what we call a magisterial district.

They even go so far in the New England states as to make the town, that is the district, the political unit. In all other states the county is the political unit. In New England the legislators are elected by towns and not by counties.

We hope that the editor will get this matter straightened out. It has always jarred us when we were trying to buy a standard country smoke like the Flor de Upas, or an Old Virginia Cheroot, or a Wheeling Stogy, to be informed that it might be obtainable in The Village. It takes a nimble mentality to fall into the spirit easily and look a man who had often heard of villages but had not frequented them.

The editor under the rule of lex talionis could retaliate by referring to the palatial Greenbrier as the public-house.

His mild way is best. A dignified protest is always best. Not to threaten and not to entreat. Just point out the error and demand your rights. If it is needed in the campaign, he is welcome to the following quotation: Call me pet names, dearest! Call me thy bird.

That folds its wild breast at one cherishing word.

That flits its wild wings there, ne'er dreaming of flight.

That tenderly sings there in loving delight!

Oh! my sad heart keeps pining for one fond word.—  
Call me pet names dearest! Call me thy bird!

John Burroughs, Thomas A. Edison, Henry Ford, Chairman Hurley, and other distinguished men have been heading a paper chase from New York to the mountains of eastern Tennessee. You hear of them at different points through the newspapers. In the course of their itinerary they crossed Pocahontas county on the Staunton & Parkersburg Turnpike, but as the old boys had not sent word around generally there was no opportunity for the people to gather and sit on the fence and watch them go by.

The first thing that we saw about the trip was the first night out from New York. The party travelling in motor cars selected a likely piece of woods to camp in, and sent a hired man up to the house of the farmer to ask permission to sleep on his land. In this part of the country the reply would have been an invitation to come right in and set down. It is related

however that in this case the farmer did not give his consent to the encampment until he had inquired who it was that craved the hospitality of a fence corner. The farmer said that he had never heard of Edison, or Ford, but when John Burroughs's name was mentioned he expressed great surprise and pleasure and sent him word to hang up his hat on a thorn and lay right down on the ground and make himself at home. It occurs to us that he probably thought that John Burroughs was the man he was on the jury with him last court or some horse-trader by that name or the like.

We are like the old farmer in this that we would rather meet and talk to John Burroughs than any of that particular "crowd." The old gentleman is eighty-one years old, but they say that he scorned the cot that was provided for him, and lay down on the ground and slept.

He is a naturalist and notwithstanding a truthful man. We sometimes think that if he would put just a proper amount of adornment in his accounts of the wonders of nature that his works would be more exciting. There is no one on earth that we would rather interview on the headwaters than this great authority on nature. And he ought to be at home here for there are hundreds of skilled observers of plants and animals here, who not being given to express themselves in print, do not have the world for an audience, such as Burroughs talks to. We hope somebody on Cheat Mountain where the party spent the night, pointed out to him the thornless blackberry, found nowhere else in the world. If he failed to see that he will just have to come back again.

Burroughs had with him a skilled electrician by the name of Edison, who was able to rig up electric lights in camp every night from the machinery in the motor cars, and an experienced mechanic by the name of Ford who knows all about automobiles.

Burroughs is a close observer and enthusiastic lover of nature and has written a great deal. Among his publications are Wake Robin, Winter Sunshine, Birds and Poets, Locusts and Wild Honey, and Signs and Seasons. We hope he will come back. One thing is sure; he struck a fine ray for weeds in this county.

The route that they traveled was in that part of the county where Henry Clay used to come to hunt, and the old pike that they traveled was once a great thoroughfare for through travel. While most of the travel from the west was over the national pike in Pennsylvania, it often happened that this more southern route was taken either going or coming for the change of scene. Thus in the old days, Abraham Lincoln might have been seen along this pike in his journeys to and from the east.

We like to see great men come to the mountains of this county and when they come we try to treat them like folks. We let them do as they please and do not entertain them half to death. Our people are not over curious and inquisitive, but if we had known that John Burroughs was to be in this neighboring neighborhood, it seems to us that we would have hollered and come into camp to ask him about the trillium declinatius, and why it does so, and why he calls it the wake robin? Just three simple questions, and if the conversation was carried further it would rest with him. It is generally pretty easy to get acquainted with strangers in two places—in the woods and in barrooms, and barrooms being cut out, only the woods are left.

When Gen. Robert E. Lee invaded this county with an army in the early days of the Civil War he made his camp at this place, then called Marlins Bottom. Another army about the same time came into the Upper Tract where the battle of the Alleghany was fought. A soldier whose home was here was with the army in the upper end of the county and he came riding home for a visit and between here and Edray he passed Gen. Lee riding by his lone self. The soldier saluted and passed on but in a very short distance he met two of the General's staff officers who told him that the man he had just passed in the road was Gen. Robert E. Lee. So said so done. The soldier turned his horse and galloped back to overtake the famous general, for to make his acquaintance, and he got a powerful chilly reception. The general demanded to know why he was halted, and the soldier said that he was just from the other army and that he had seen the general's son the day before, and so on. But as Uncle Remus says, the general he fuse to spond, and that was the last of that encounter.

It is further related that the general rode on a short distance farther and met an old lady riding one of the fattest, laziest old horses in the country. The old horse had stopped in the road and gone to sleep and the old lady could not make him move on. Gen. Lee, seeing what was the matter, cut a good switch and presented it to the old lady, with which she was able to flail her way home. When

the lady found that the switch had been cut and presented to her by Gen. Lee, she kept it the rest of her days.

We hear that the distinguished men who formed the party that was here the other day were very courteous to visitors to the camp, and talked real intelligent. But they have come and are gone. We do not know anything to do about it, unless we find where John Burroughs made a track in the mud, and preserve the impression under glass to show our descendants that he once passed this way.

Rev. Absalom Sydenstricker, D. D. preached at this place last Sunday. He has been a missionary to China for thirty-eight years. He is in the United States for three weeks before returning to China. He made the trip here this time to place his daughter in school. Mrs. Sydenstricker, who is a native of this county did not come with them owing to the terrors of the long ocean journey. Mr. Sydenstricker speaks as though it were doubtful whether either he or his wife ever return again to this country as he has a comfortable home in China, though a son, who is prominent in educational circles in this country has other plans for his parents when they retire from the missionary work in the far east.

The missionary lived through the Boxer uprising and was in a part of the country that was very dangerous to foreigners. He was attacked once and beat off his assailants with a club. Many Christian workers perished in that war, and the effect has been to greatly advanced the work of Christianity in China owing to the heroic deaths that the missionaries died.

Richter says: To die for truth is not to die for one's country but to die for the world. Truth, like the Venus de Medic, will pass down in thirty fragments to posterity; but posterity will collect and recombine them into a goddess. Then, also, the temple, O eternal Truth! that now stands half below the earth, made hollow by the sepulchres of its witnesses, will raise itself in the total majesty of its proportions, and will stand in monumental granite; and every pillar on which it rests will be fixed in the grave of a martyr.

David Livingstone gives the clearest view of a successful missionary's life. He maintains that it is only by force of example that the heathen can be won to Christianity. That when a missionary is wise, just, kindly, patient, and of good personal habits, and has been well tested by years of right living, that then only does his work count. The people who have come in contact with him learn to respect his religion through him. On the contrary a drunkard and debauched missionary does incalculable harm to the cause. Livingstone did not believe much in quick converts. It is related of Livingstone that when he moved in Africa from one place to another some forty miles away, every person living in the village that he left, arose and moved with him and settled with him in his new home.

Livingstone also calls attention to the fact that in Africa that a solemn ceremony like singing, praying, and preaching, if attempted in an unknown tongue, interests and amuses the heathen, and they go into gales of laughter at the strange and unusual sight. We can well believe that in the heart of Africa, the sight of a strange being in ministerial garb going through the sacred ceremonies of his church, might be misconstrued.

With the right kind of a missionary, his usefulness grows with the length of his term of service.

Our good friend Hon. W. P. Hubbard, of Wheeling, each summer turns West Virginia over to safe hands he can trust, and goes to New England from whence he sprang. From Nantucket Island, Massachusetts, he sends us a letter and a box of bonny purple heather. It is the first we ever saw. He speaks of the huckleberry being a distant relative. Maybe he does not know how we Scotch mountaineers trace kinship. Just so you belong to the clan. The huckleberry is a useful member of the family. The heather is an ornamental relative. But oh these words! May be distant, the distinguished special pleader may mean three thousand miles distant.

The flowering plants that he sent were certainly attractive. You ought to have seen the women within our gates take to the heather!

Nantucket Island, Mass.  
August 28, 1918.

My dear Price:  
There are some pleasant things at this place where I am summering. For instance there are your dissertations on men and things which come to me weekly in the Pocahontas Times. And there are huckleberries and their very distant relative, the heather. Last week I had all three, the berries, the heather, and your editorial discussing them.

You have only the berries and the editorial, so to put you on an even footing with me I am sending you some of the heather under another cover. It will last longer if you do

not put it in water.

There are two kinds of heather in the bogs. The larger quantity being the more common. In fact Calluna Vulgaris, and the other and smaller parcel Erica Vagans, the chief difference in their behavior being that the latter is in bloom longer than the other.

Last night we were contributing and comparing counting out rhymes, folksongs and game songs (e. g. King William &c.) A New England woman recited some lines which I had not heard before. I told her of your appetite for such things, and she promised me a copy. If she furnishes it I shall send it to you to see whether it stirs any ancestral memories in the Yankee part of your make up.

Yours sincerely,  
W. P. HUBBARD.

State of West Virginia,  
County of Pocahontas,  
Town of Cass, To-Wit:

At a special session of the council of the town of Cass, Pocahontas county held in the council chambers thereof, in the municipal building on the 13th day of August, 1918, there were present A. S. Gillispie, Mayor; Geo. S. Graham, recorder; and U. H. Hannah, M. D.; W. F. Anderson, Robert Hivick, Jacob Cooper and J. C. Graves, members of the council of said town.

In accordance with section 4, chapter 9, of the Acts of the extraordinary session of the legislature of 1908, the council proceeded to make up an estimate of the amounts necessary to be levied for the current fiscal year, to cover all municipal debts and liabilities payable during the said year, including probable expenditures for municipal purposes, and proper allowances for delinquent taxes, expense of collections and contingencies; but deducting there from the money in the city treasury applicable to the service of the year and municipal claims and doth determine and estimate the several amounts to be levied as follows:

**ESTIMATE**  
Estimated Receipts.  
The amount due the said municipality, and the amount that will become due and collectible from every source, except from the levy of taxes to be made for the current fiscal year.  
Balance in hands of the city treasury \$ 200 00  
Hotel license 12 90  
Tobacco and cigarette license 20 00  
Other license 47 00  
Total estimated receipts \$279.90

**Estimated Disbursements.**  
Debts and demands owed by the said municipality which will become due and payable during the current fiscal year, including interest on bonded indebtedness of every kind and character.  
Election expenses \$ 47 00  
Salaries 110 00  
Police Department 350 00  
Health Department 65 00  
Streets and alleys 623 02  
Delinquencies and exonerations 100 00  
Commissions 100 00  
Total estimated disbursements \$1195.02

Amount to be provided for by levy \$1115.12  
It appearing to the council that the total valuation of all taxable property in this municipality according to the last assessment thereof, is \$318,607; being real estate to the value of \$183,100; personal property to the value of \$135,507; and railroad and other property assessed by the board of public works to the value of \$2292 as certified to the council by the officer whose duty it is to make such report, and it appearing from the foregoing estimates that it is necessary to raise by levy, after deducting all credits, \$1115.12 for municipal purposes; therefore it is determined that a levy on each One Hundred Dollars valuation of thirty-five cents (35c) for municipal purposes will be necessary to produce the estimated amount as aforesaid for the ensuing fiscal year.

State of West Virginia,  
County of Pocahontas,  
Town of Cass, To-Wit:  
I, Geo. S. Graham, Recorder, in and for the municipality of Cass, county of Pocahontas, and State of West Virginia, do hereby certify that the foregoing conforms to an order made by the council of said municipality on the 13th day of August 1918. Given under my hand this 13th day of August, 1918.  
GEO. S. GRAHAM, Recorder of the Municipality of Cass, W. Va.

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Mrs. M. F. Gum, Third Ave., Marlinton, says: "The first year I was in Marlinton began to have trouble with my back and it ached very much. I had severe pains across my back and loins and if stooped to pick up anything, I became very dizzy. I didn't know just what was the matter with me, but I suspected my kidneys. I used a box of Doan's Kidney Pills and they did me a lot of good. I took in all about two boxes. I no longer had any dizzy spells and the backaches became a thing of the past." (Statement given May 1, 1913).

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Marlinton, W. Va.

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## Notice

To the Stockholders of the Marlinton Knapps Creek and Dilley Mill Mutual Telephone Company:

There will be an annual meeting of the stockholders at Huntersville, W. Va., on Saturday, September 7, 1918 at 10 a. m. to transact any business that may properly come before the meeting.

J. H. DOYLE, Secretary.

## Announcement

On or about October 15, I will enter the Army service as Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist for the duration of the war. I have been unable to secure the services of a competent Specialist to take charge of my private work; therefore there will be no one left in charge of my private practice during my absence. Anyone desiring my services will please call before October 15. I expect to take up my practice here when my service in the Army is completed and the public will be notified of my return through this paper.

DR. E. D. WELLS,  
Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat Specialist,  
Clifton Forge, Va.

## Notice

The undersigned Board of Education will receive sealed bids until noon Sept. 10, 1918 for the erection of a one room school building on the Manassa Simmons land on top of the Alleghany Mt. near the store line, plans and specifications on file with the secretary of the board. The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids, Greenbank District Board.

J. H. CURRY, Secy.  
Greenbank, W. Va.

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H. B. RUCKER,  
Attorney-at-Law,  
Marlinton, W. Va.  
Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties, and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

F. RAYMOND HILL,  
Attorney-at-Law,  
Marlinton, W. Va.  
Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties, and in the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.

ANDREW PRICE  
Attorney-at-Law  
Marlinton, W. Va.

W. A. BRATTON,  
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Marlinton, W. Va.  
Prompt and careful attention given to all legal business.

W. G. McNEIL,  
Attorney-at-Law,  
Marlinton, W. Va.  
Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties, and in the Court of Appeals of the state of West Virginia.

L. M. McCLINTIC,  
Attorney-at-Law,  
Marlinton, W. Va.  
Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

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